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(56) Documents cited

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(58) Field of search

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(54) Scallop growing tray

(57) A scallop growing tray comprises a plastics moulding in the form of a substantially circular and annular peripheral member (1) and substantially radially disposed pole members (2). A mesh (3) is embedded in the moulding and spans the sector-shaped areas (4) bounded by the members (1 and 2). The member (1) has formations (5) therein and each formation (5) defines a slot (6) which opens in the radially outer edge of the member (1). The slot (6) tapers and extends substantially radially inwards to an elbow (7) and then tapers and extends in a direction which is partly circumferential and partly radially outwards to a terminal region (8) where inadvertent downward movement of the tray relative to a suspension cord (not shown) wedged at the region (8) is prevented by spragging.

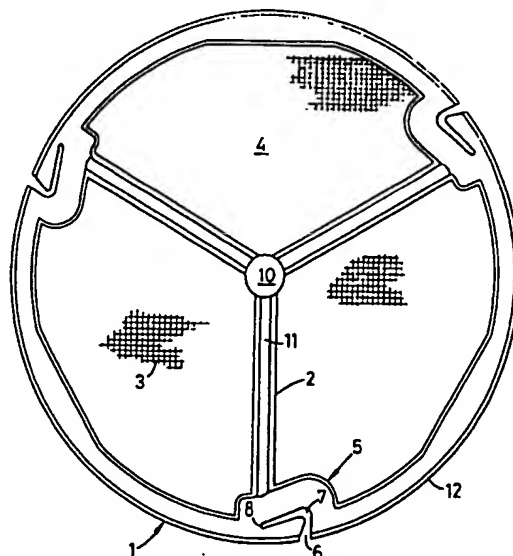


Fig. 1

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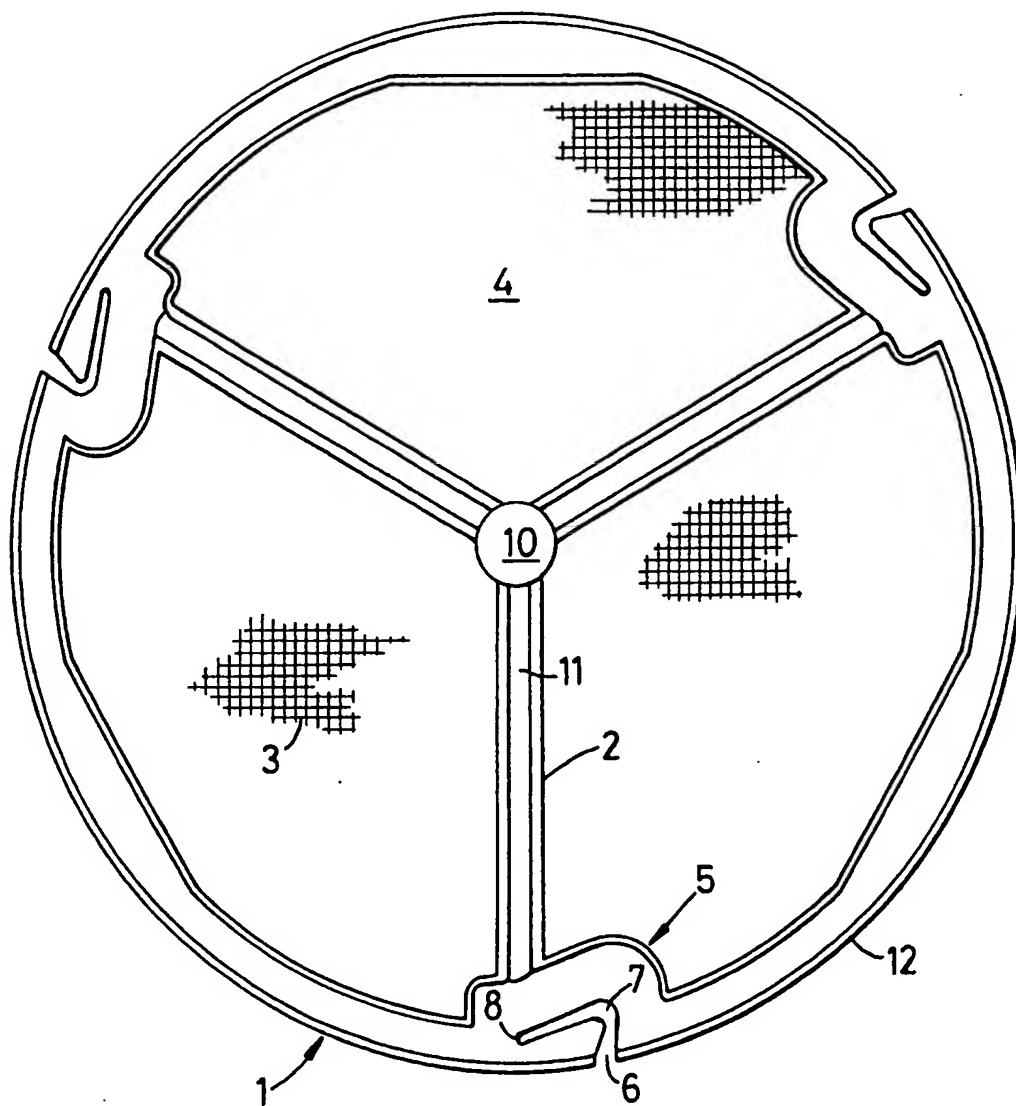


Fig. 1

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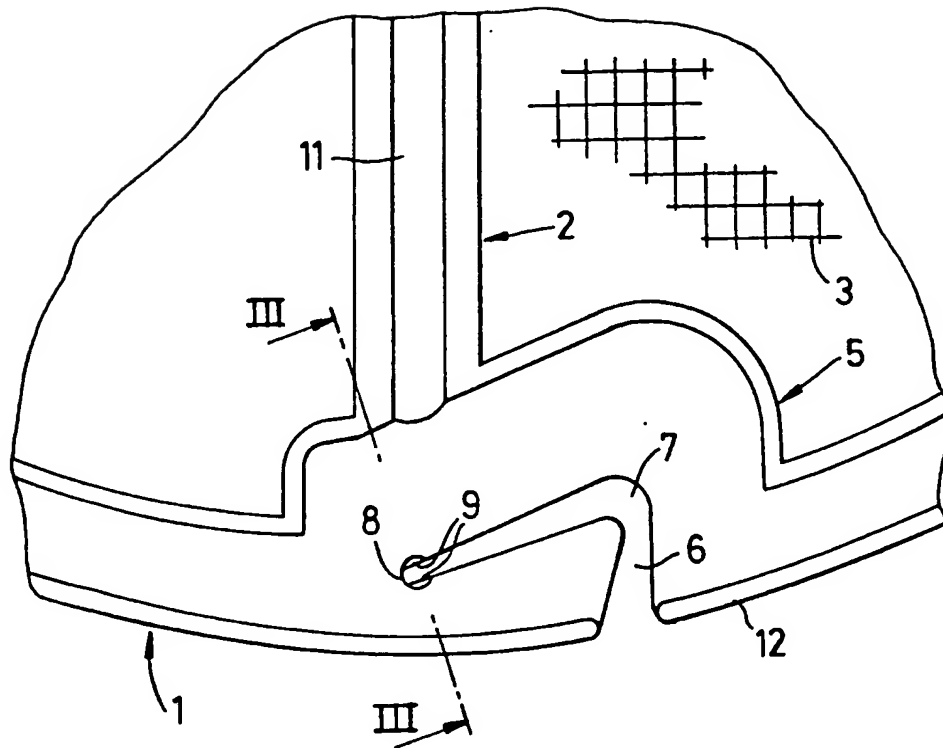


Fig. 2

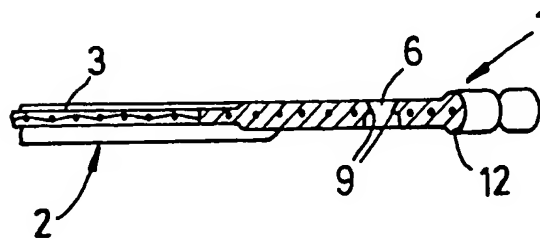


Fig. 3

Scallop Growing Tray

Description

This invention relates to a tray on which to grow from spat primarily king and queen scallop. The invention also relates to a suspended assembly of a plurality of such trays in superposed spaced-apart relationship, such as assembly being known as a "lantern".

According to the invention there is provided a scallop growing tray comprising a plastics moulding in the form of a substantially circular and annular peripheral member and a plurality of substantially radially disposed spoke members, and a mesh embedded in the moulding and spanning the sector-shaped areas bounded by the peripheral and spoke members, the peripheral member having a plurality of equiangularly spaced-apart formations therein for co-operation with suspension cords, each such formation defining a slot opening into the radially outer edge of the peripheral member, the slot tapering and extending substantially radially inwards from the opening to an elbow and then tapering and extending in a direction which is partly circumferential and partly radially outwards to a terminal region where the opposing edges of the slot are spragged to prevent a cord wedged between such edges from being pulled inadvertently in one direction along the length of the cord.

A plurality of such trays may be suspended in superposed spaced-apart relationship to form a lantern.

An embodiment of the invention will now be described, by way of example, with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig 1 is a plan view of a tray according to the invention;

Fig 2 shows, to an enlarged scale, a detail of Fig 1; and

Fig 3 is a section on line III-III of Fig 2.

In the drawings, a scallop growing tray comprises a plastics injection moulding in the form of a substantially circular and annular peripheral member 1 and three equiangularly spaced apart and radially disposed spoke members 2. A mesh 3 is embedded in the moulding and spans the sector-shaped areas 4 bounded by the peripheral and spoke members 1 and 2.

At the join between each spoke member 2 and the peripheral member 1 there is a formation 5 for co-operation with a suspension cord (not shown). Each formation 5 defines a slot 6 opening into the radially outer edge of the peripheral member. The slot 6 tapers and extends substantially radially inwards from the opening to an elbow 7 and then tapers and extends in a direction which is partly circumferential and partly radially outwards to a terminal region 8 where the opposing edges of the slot 6 are spragged at 9 to prevent a cord wedged between such edges from being pulled upwards as shown in Fig 3.

The injection moulding is performed from a hub 10 joining the spoke members 2. The spoke members have thickened medial portions 11 for reinforcement. The portions 11 are less pronounced on the top of the moulding so as not to impede the movement of the scallops over the tray. For further reinforcement the radially outer edges of the peripheral member 1 are thickened at 12 and the peripheral member 1 is widened intermediate the joins with the spoke members 2.

The tray may be one of a number of such trays assembled together in a lantern wherein the trays are suspended in superposed spaced-apart relationship by three cords which are inserted laterally of themselves into the slots 6 and wedged at the terminal regions 8 without the need for knots or loops since the spragged edges 9 prevent inadvertent sliding of each tray down

the cords. The shape of each slot 6 also prevents inadvertent removal of the suspension cord therefrom by rough handling of the lantern. The lantern is completed by the application of a mesh sleeve around the assembly of trays, so as to retain captive the scallops being grown within the lantern.

CLAIMS

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1. A Scallop growing tray comprising a plastics moulding in the form of a substantially circular and annular peripheral member and a plurality of substantially radially disposed spoke members, and a mesh embedded in the moulding and spanning the sector-shaped areas bounded by the peripheral and spoke members, the peripheral member having a plurality of equiangularly spaced-apart formations therein for co-operation with suspension cords, each such formation defining a slot opening into the radially outer edge of the peripheral member, the slot tapering and extending substantially radially inwards from the opening to an elbow and then tapering and extending in a direction which is partly circumferential and partly radially outwards to a terminal region where the opposing edges of the slot are spragged to prevent a cord wedged between such edges from being pulled inadvertently in one direction along the length of the cord.
2. A scallop growing tray according to claim 1, wherein each of the formations is disposed at the joint between each of the spoke members and the peripheral member.
3. A scallop growing tray substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawings .